DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
MESSAGE CENTER

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
DIA FOIA & Declassification Services Offices
Date: Oct 17, 2018

VZCZCMAY175 ~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~
MULT 4523

ACTION:
DIA (210)
DISTR:
JCS/MC OPR IADB(01) USAMCLO(01) SJCS(04) DJS(03) SJCS(01)
J3(14) J4(08) J5(07) SAGA(04) NMCC(03) JRC(01) SECDEF(10)
WSEG(01) ARPA(06) ASD:IL(03) ASD:M&RA(01) ASD:ISA(10)
ATSD:AE(01) ASD:DP&E(01) ASD:PA(03) ASD:I(01) DDRE(02)
STATEOP NSC(01) PACS FILE(01)
(301)

TRANSIT/080142Z/080151Z/A00109GRP0495
DE RUEKJCS #3999 0080151
ZNY ~~CCCCC~~
RUHGIIW T COMCARGRU SEVEN
R 080142Z JAN 77 ZEX
FM DIA WASH DC
TO RUCRDIB/DIACURINTEL
AIG 7011
BT
~~C O N F I D E N T I A L/NOFORN/WNINTEL~~ 4523
FROM DN-2G

~~NOFORN~~

SUBJ: DIA DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE NOTICE (DIN) (U)

IADIN 7-4A (AS OF: 1645 EST 7 JAN 77)

ARGENTINA: TERRORIST TOLL CONTINUES TO MOUNT. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~

1. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ SINCE NOVEMBER, ARGENTINE SECURITY FORCES HAVE HAD SPECTACULAR SUCCESS IN THEIR BATTLE AGAINST LEFTIST TERRORISTS, ACCORDING TO GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS. DURING THE PERIOD, 250 SUSPECTED SUBVERSIVES WERE KILLED, BRINGING THE TOTAL OF VICTIMS FOR 1976 TO SOME 1,500. SO FAR DURING THE FIRST SIX DAYS OF THIS NEW YEAR, 50 GUERRILLAS HAVE DIED IN THE POLITICALLY-MOTIVATED VIOLENCE.

2. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ THE GOVERNMENT'S SUCCESS CAN BE ATTRIBUTED IN PART TO BETTER INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION AND OPERATIONS. THIS HAS RESULTED IN AN INCREASED KNOWLEDGE OF THE INNER WORKINGS OF THE TERRORISTS' ACTIVITIES, THEREBY PROVIDING SECURITY FORCES WITH THE INTENTIONS AND LOCATIONS OF SUBVERSIVES. AS RAIDS ARE CARRIED OUT, DOCUMENTS ARE SEIZED THAT EXPOSE ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES AND PLANS OF THE TERRORIST

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ELEMENTS.

3. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT HAS MADE GREAT STRIDES IN ITS ANTISUBVERSIVE CAMPAIGN SINCE TAKING OVER THE GOVERNMENT LAST MARCH. NEVERTHELESS, THE TERRORISTS STILL SHOULD BE JUDGED CAPABLE OF CARRYING OUT DRAMATIC ACTS OF VIOLENCE, SUCH AS ASSASSINATIONS AND BOMBINGS.

4. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ IN RELATED DEVELOPMENTS, PRESIDENT VIDELA'S RELEASE OF A LARGE NUMBER OF POLITICAL PRISONERS BEFORE CHRISTMAS AND THE PROMOTION OF AN ARMY COLONEL TO GENERAL HAVE CAUSED DISAFFECTION WITHIN THE MILITARY. THE MAJORITY OF ARMED FORCES OFFICERS REPORTEDLY OPPOSED THE DETAINEES' RELEASE, BELIEVING THAT SUCH AN ACT WOULD PERMIT SOME OF THEM TO RESUME SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES. MOST ARMY OFFICERS APPARENTLY DISAPPROVED OF VIDELA'S BYPASSING TRADITIONAL PROMOTION PROCEDURES IN ADVANCING COL JUAN ALBERTO PITA TO THE RANK OF GENERAL. ALTHOUGH VIDELA'S MOTIVE WAS PROBABLY TO REWARD PITA FOR HIS RECENT ESCAPE FROM A SIX-MONTH CONFINEMENT ORDEAL IN THE HANDS OF TERRORISTS, THE OFFICERS REPORTEDLY CONSIDERED THE PROMOTION UNJUST SINCE MANY OTHER NON-SELECTED COLONELS WERE SUPERIOR TO PITA.

5. ~~(C/NOFORN/WNINTEL)~~ THE DISPLEASURE WITHIN THE MILITARY OVER THE VIDELA DECISIONS ARE NOT IN THEMSELVES SUFFICENTLY SERIOUS TO BRING DOWN THE GOVERNMENT. NEVERTHELESS, CONSIDERING THE ECONOMIC, LABOR, AND POLITICAL PRESSURES BEING FELT BY THE GOVERNMENT, VIDELA AND HIS CLOSEST ADVISERS CAN ILL AFFORD TO MAKE ANYMORE DECISIONS THAT MIGHT ERODE THE SUPPORT THEY NOW ENJOY WITHIN THE ARMY.

PREPARED BY: [redacted]

~~(XGDS-2 DECLASSIFY UPON NOTIFICATION BY THE ORIGINATOR)~~

BT

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ANNOTES

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